WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A data storage system including two or more storage devices that are
remotely coupled to each other, comprising:

    at least two host devices coupled together by a network interface;

    at least two data transfer interfaces, each of which corresponds to one of the
host devices;

    at least two storage devices, each of which is coupled to one of the host
devices, and which are coupled to each other by a remote copy interface, and which have
duplicated determining volumes respective; and

    a determination function of using the determining volumes in competition for
an exclusive usage right among said host devices when a failure occurs in the network
interface or the host device.

2.   The data storage system according to claim 1, further comprising:

    an exclusive control function that controls the determining volumes to
determine one of the host device exclusively.

3.   A data storage system including at least two storage devices remotely
coupled to each other, comprising:

    at least two host devices coupled by a network interface to each other, and
having respective paired volume control software;

    at least two data transfer interfaces, each of which correspond to one of the
host devices;

    at least two storage devices, each of which is coupled to one of the host
devices, and which are coupled to each other by a remote copy interface, and which have a
commonly-used paired volume made by the remote copy interface;

    a first function for forwarding a reserve command issued from one of the host
devices to exclusively use the paired volume, by way of said paired volume control software,
toward the storage device; and

    a second function for receiving a normal end response from the storage device
corresponding to the reserve command, for issuing a command for controlling the paired

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15   volume toward the storage device, and for issuing a transition command for changing an

16   attribute of said paired volume;

17   wherein the data storage system determines the host device that is received

18   with the normal end response, as only one host device to access the paired volume.